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P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, on July 15, 2005.

Elena M. Cuthbertson

PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF

SHIN UTSUNOMIYA, ET AL.

DOCKET NO.: TOYO-5

SERIAL NO.: 10/535,045

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FILED: MAY 13, 2005

ART UNIT:

TITLE: PHOTOSENSITIVE RESIN COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR

FORMING HYDROGEL

WILMINGTON, DE DATE: July 15, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Applicant: Shin Umiya, et al.

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 (currently amended) A photosensitive resin composition comprising a poly((meth)acrylic acid)-based water-soluble photo-sensitive resin (A) having an acid value of 150 170 mgKOH/g or more on a solid basis;

the resin (A) being formed of a ((meth)acrylic acid)-based polymer in which a compound represented by formula (1):

(wherein R¹ represents H or Me; and R² represents a linear or branched C2-C10 alkylene group) has been added to portions of the carboxylic groups,

a photopolymerization initiator (B); and water (C).

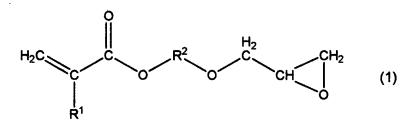
- 2. (original) A photosensitive resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the carboxyl groups of the ((meth)acrylic acid)-based polymer to which the compound represented by formula (1) has not been added are at least partially neutralized with an alkali.
- 3. (previously amended) A method for forming a hydrogel characterized by comprising subjecting a photosensitive resin composition as recited in claim 1 or 2 to photopolymerization.
- (previously amended) A hydrogel produced by causing a photosensitive resin composition to photopolymerize, the photosensitive resin composition comprising

a poly((meth)acrylic acid)-based water-soluble photo-sensitive resin (A) having an acid value of at least about 170 mgKOH/g on a solid basis;

the resin (A) being formed of a ((meth)acrylic acid)-based polymer in which a compound represented by formula (1):

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(wherein R¹ represents H or Me; and R² represents a liner linear or branched C2-C10 alkylene group) has been added to portions of the carboxylic groups,

a photopolymerization initiator (B); and water (C).

5. (previously amended) A hydrogel according to claim 4, wherein the carboxyl groups of the ((meth)acrylic acid)-based polymer to which the compound represented by formula (1) has not been added are at least partially neutralized with alkali.